



In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1 through 5, and add new claims 6-68, as follows:

Claims 1 - 5 (canceled).

Sub C
6. (new): A supplement for a traditional-style, live auction that
instantaneously integrates a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience
while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising:

clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids
received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being
auctioned at a live auction site;

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bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders
auction bid information for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for receiving
instantaneously auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the
live auction site, and for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders the
onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means
as directed by an auctioneer.

7. (new): A supplement for a traditional-style, live auction that
instantaneously integrates a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience
while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising:

clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and/or accepting auction bids
received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being
auctioned at a live auction site;

marquee system means for instantaneously displaying auction bid information, including proposed and accepted auction bids, for each item being auctioned at the live auction site; and

bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders and to the marquee system means the auction bid information for each item being auctioned at the live auction site, for instantaneously receiving auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for transmitting instantaneously to the marquee system means each remote auction bid received for items being auctioned at the live auction, and for broadcasting instantaneously to all remote auction bidders and to the clerk and marquee system means the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

8. (new): A supplement for a traditional-style, live auction that instantaneously integrates a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising:

audio/video system means for transmitting instantaneously live audio and video data from a live auction site to one or more remote auction bidders having bidding device means for receiving the data and for transmitting instantaneously remote auction bids for items being auctioned at a live auction site;

clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site;

marquee system means for instantaneously displaying auction bid information, including proposed and accepted auction bids, for items being auctioned at the live auction site; and

bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders and to the marquee system means the auction bid information for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for instantaneously receiving auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for transmitting instantaneously to the marquee system means each remote auction bid received for items being auctioned at the live auction, and for broadcasting instantaneously to all remote auction bidders and to the clerk and marquee systems means the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

9. (new): A supplement for a traditional-style, live auction that instantaneously integrates a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising:

audio system means for transmitting instantaneously live audio data from a live auction site to one or more remote auction bidders having bidding device means for receiving the data and for transmitting instantaneously remote auction bids for items being auctioned at a live auction site;

clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site;

marquee system means for instantaneously displaying auction bid information, including proposed and accepted auction bids, for items being auctioned at the live auction site; and

bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders and to the marquee system means the auction bid information for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for instantaneously receiving auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for transmitting instantaneously to the marquee system means each remote auction bid received for items being auctioned at the live auction, and for broadcasting instantaneously to all remote auction bidders and to the clerk and marquee system means the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

10. (new): A supplement for a traditional-style, live auction that instantaneously integrates a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience while leaving the auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising:

video system means for transmitting instantaneously live video data from a live auction site to one or more remote auction bidders having bidding device means for receiving the data and for transmitting instantaneously remote auction bids for items being auctioned at a live auction site;

clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site;

marquee system means for instantaneously displaying auction bid information, including proposed and accepted auction bids, for items being auctioned at the live auction site; and

bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders and to the marquee system means the auction bid information for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for instantaneously receiving auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for transmitting instantaneously to the marquee system means each remote auction bid received for items being auctioned at the live auction, and for broadcasting instantaneously to all remote auction bidders and to the clerk and marquee system means the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

11. (new): The remote bidding supplements as in one of claims 6-10, and further comprising data mining means for processing and analyzing the onsite and remote auction bid history for each item auctioned at the live auction site.

12. (new): A method for instantaneously integrating a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience at a traditional-style, live auction while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising the steps of:

providing clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site;

providing bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders auction bid information for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for receiving instantaneously auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being

auctioned at the live auction site, and for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

13. (new): A method for instantaneously integrating a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience at a traditional-style, live auction while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising the steps of:

providing clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site;

providing marquee system means for instantaneously displaying auction bid information, including proposed and accepted auction bids, for items being auctioned at the live auction site; and

providing bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders and to the marquee system means the auction bid information for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for instantaneously receiving auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for transmitting instantaneously to the marquee system means each remote auction bid received for items being auctioned at the live auction, and for broadcasting instantaneously to all remote auction bidders and to the clerk and marquee system means the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

14. (new): A method for instantaneously integrating a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience at a traditional-style, live auction while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising the steps of:

providing audio system means for streaming instantaneously live audio data from a live auction site to one or more remote auction bidders having bidding device means for receiving the data and for transmitting instantaneously remote auction bids for items being auctioned at a live auction site;

providing clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site; and

providing bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders the auction bid information for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for instantaneously receiving auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site, and for broadcasting instantaneously to all remote auction bidders and to the clerk system means the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

15. (new): A method for instantaneously integrating a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience at a traditional-style, live auction while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising the steps of:

providing video system means for streaming instantaneously live video data from a live auction site to one or more remote auction bidders having bidding device means for receiving the data and for transmitting instantaneously remote auction bids for items being auctioned at a live auction site;

providing clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site; and

providing bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders the auction bid information for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for instantaneously receiving auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site, and for broadcasting instantaneously to all remote auction bidders and to the clerk system means the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

16. (new): A method for instantaneously integrating a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience at a traditional-style, live auction while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising the steps of:

providing audio/video system means for streaming instantaneously live audio and video data from a live auction site to one or more remote auction bidders having bidding device means for receiving the data and for transmitting instantaneously remote auction bids for items being auctioned at a live auction site;

providing clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site; and

providing bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders the auction bid information for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for instantaneously receiving auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site, and for broadcasting instantaneously to all remote

auction bidders and to the clerk system means the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

17. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16, and further comprising the step of providing catalog system means for cataloging pre-auction sales data on the items to be auctioned at the live auction site and providing means for broadcasting to the remote auction bidders the pre-auction sales data.

18. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16, and further comprising the step of providing data mining means for processing and analyzing a live auction's on-site and remote auction bid history for the items auctioned at the live auction site.

19. (new): The method of claim 16, wherein the step of providing audio/video system means includes providing audio/video capture means at the live auction site for generating the live audio and video data for streaming instantaneously to remote auction bidders.

20. (new): The method of claim 14, wherein the step of providing audio system means includes providing audio capture means at the live auction site for generating the live audio data for streaming instantaneously to remote auction bidders.

21. (new): The method of claim 15, wherein the step of providing video system means includes providing video capture means at the live auction site for generating the live video data for streaming instantaneously to remote auction bidders.

22. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16, wherein the step of providing bid system means includes providing bid engine algorithm means for requesting and controlling the auction bids received from auction bidders for the items being auctioned at the live auction site.

23. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the step of providing clerk system means includes providing a live auctioneer at the live auction site with full discretionary control over the actions of the clerk system means.

24. (new): The method of claim 16 wherein the step of providing audio/video system means includes providing a live auctioneer and enabling remote bidders to instantaneously hear the live auctioneer's auction chant and view real-time video from the live auction site.

25. (new): The method of claim 14 wherein the step of providing audio system means includes providing a live auctioneer and enabling remote bidders to instantaneously hear the live auctioneer's auction chant.

26. (new): The method of claim 15 wherein the step of providing video system means includes enabling remote bidders to view real-time video from the live auction site.

27. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein a live auctioneer is able to instantaneously accept auction bids from on-site auction bidders and from remote auction bidders.

28. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the remote auction bidders are able to instantaneously follow an accepted bid sequence established by the live auctioneer.

29. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the remote auction bidders are able to instantaneously follow a requested bid sequence established by the live auctioneer.

30. (new): The method as in one of claims 14-16 wherein the remote auction bidder is able to transmit instantaneously a remote auction bid by activating a single button within the bidding device means.

31. (new): The method of claim 30 wherein the remote auction bidder is able to transmit instantaneously a remote auction bid by activating a single bid button from a selection of multiple bid buttons within the bidding device means, each representing a different bid amount.

32. (new): The method of claim 30 wherein the amount of the bid is visually displayed, which will be instantaneously submitted upon activation of the bid button by a remote auction bidder.

33. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the remote auction bidder is able to transmit instantaneously a starting remote auction bid of any amount that is consistent with the clerk system means.

34. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the remote auction bidder is able to instantaneously monitor auction bids received in a text format.

35. (new): The method as in one of claims 14-16 wherein the bidding device means includes a button that may be selected by a remote auction bidder to provide an immediate summary of all of the remote auction bidder's auction purchases.

36. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the bid system means instantaneously notifies remote auction bidder(s) of the acceptance or rejection of a remote auction bidder's most recent remote auction bid.

37. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the bid system means instantaneously notifies remote auction bidder(s) of their bid-pending status when

the remote auction bidder submits a remote auction bid and of the transmission of the remote auction bid.

38. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the bid system means instantaneously notifies remote auction bidder(s) of the rejection of the remote auction bidder's most recent remote auction bid due to an insufficient credit limit available to the remote auction bidder.

39. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the bid system means instantaneously notifies remote auction bidder(s) of a higher accepted bid of another auction bidder than the remote auction bidder's most recently accepted remote auction bid.

40. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the bid system means instantaneously notifies the remote auction bidder of the rejection of the remote auction bidder's most recently transmitted remote auction bid when the remote auction bidder is already the highest bidding auction bidder.

41. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the bid system means enables the remote auction bidder to instantaneously receive text messages from the live auction site.

42. (new): The method of claim 13 wherein the text messages sent to remote auction bidders are instantaneously displayed by the marquee system means.

43. (new): The method of claim 13 wherein the marquee system means instantaneously displays a sequence number and a title for each item being auctioned at the live auction site.

44. (new): The method of claim 13 wherein the marquee system means instantaneously displays the identity of the current high auction bidder with a single tag within an associated variable field.

C 45. (new): The method of claim 13 wherein the marquee system means instantaneously displays the current high auction bid with a single tag with an associated variable field.

46. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein text messages instantaneously received at the live auction site includes text messages sent from a remote bidder.

AI cont'd 47. (new): The method of claim 13 wherein auction bid information instantaneously displayed on the marquee means includes text messages sent from a remote bidder.

Sub Cl 48. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the step of providing clerk system means includes providing at least one bid increment button that when selected instantaneously signals remote auction bidders that the auctioneer has accepted a bid at a previously auctioneer-requested bid amount and instantaneously identifies a new auctioneer-requested bid amount.

49. (new): The method of claim 13 wherein the step of providing clerk system means includes providing at least one bid increment button that when selected instantaneously signals remote auction bidders and the marquee system means that the auctioneer has accepted a bid at a previously auctioneer-requested bid amount and instantaneously identifies a new auctioneer-requested bid amount.

50. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the step of providing clerk system means includes providing at least one bid decrement button that when selected instantaneously signals remote auction bidders that the auctioneer has accepted a bid at a previously auctioneer-requested bid amount and instantaneously identifies a new auctioneer-requested bid amount.

51. (new): The method of claim 13 wherein the step of providing clerk system means includes providing at least one bid decrement button that when selected instantaneously signals remote auction bidders and the marquee system means that the auctioneer has accepted a bid at a previously auctioneer-requested bid amount and instantaneously identifies a new auctioneer-requested bid amount.

52. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the clerk system means includes instantaneously modifying the high bidder status from an onsite bidder to a specific remote bidder for a specific previously accepted or proposed bid.

53. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the clerk system means includes instantaneously modifying the high bidder status from a specific remote bidder to an onsite bidder for a previously accepted or proposed bid.

54. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the clerk system means includes instantaneously modifying the amount of a specific previously accepted or proposed onsite or remote bid.

55. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the clerk system means includes instantaneously deleting a specific previously accepted or proposed onsite or remote bid.

56. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the clerk system means includes selecting the items being auctioned by either selecting the next sequential item or selecting a specific item number in or out of sequence.

57. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein the clerk system means includes identifying a specific item as sold or unsold following either a successful or unsuccessful bid sequence.

58. (new): The method of claim 13 wherein the marquee system means instantaneously alternates bid alerts for sequential remote auction bids.

59. (new): The method as in one of claims 12-16 wherein when the clerk systems means identifies an item being auctioned as sold and the bidder submitting the high bid amount is an onsite bidder, the bid system means enables the clerk system means to instantaneously accept an onsite bidder's identification, name or number.

60. (new): The method of claim 24 wherein the audio/video system means provides a prioritized method of degrading service upon determination of a network packet loss by disconnecting the video means initially, and upon continued packet loss, disconnect the audio means to ensure optimal auction bidding performance throughout.

61. (new): A supplement for a traditional-style, live auction that instantaneously integrates a remote audience with an onsite audience while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising:

audio/video system means for transmitting instantaneously live audio and video data from a live auction site to one or more remote auction bidders having bidding device means for receiving the data and for transmitting instantaneously remote auction bids for items being auctioned at a live auction site;

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clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site; and

bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders the auction bid information for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for instantaneously receiving auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site, and for broadcasting instantaneously to all remote auction bidders and to the clerk means the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

62. (new): A supplement for a traditional-style, live auction that instantaneously integrates a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising:

audio system means for transmitting instantaneously live audio data from a live auction site to one or more remote auction bidders having bidding device means for receiving the data and for transmitting instantaneously remote auction bids for items being auctioned at a live auction site;

clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site; and

bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders the auction bid information for items being auctioned at the live auction site, for instantaneously receiving auction bids from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site, and for broadcasting instantaneously to all remote

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auction bidders and to the clerk the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

63. (new): A supplement for a traditional-style, live auction that instantaneously integrates a remote auction audience with an onsite auction audience while leaving an auctioneer in complete control of the auction event, comprising:

video system means for transmitting instantaneously live video data from a live auction site to one or more remote auction bidders having bidding device means for receiving the data and for transmitting instantaneously remote auction bids for items being auctioned at a live auction site;

clerk system means for instantaneously requesting and accepting auction bids received from onsite auction bidders and from remote auction bidders for items being auctioned at the live auction site; and

bid system means for broadcasting instantaneously to remote auction bidders the auction bid information for the item(s) being auctioned at the live auction site; for instantaneously receiving auction bids from remote auction bidders for the item(s) being auctioned at the live auction site; and for broadcasting instantaneously to all remote auction bidders and to the clerk the onsite and remote auction bids that are accepted and rejected by the clerk system means as directed by an auctioneer.

64. (new): The method of claim 13 wherein the marquee system means instantaneously displays the identity of the remote auction bidder whose remote auction bid has been accepted.



65. (new): The method of claim 31 wherein the amount of the bid is visually displayed, which will be instantaneously submitted upon activation of the bid button by a remote auction bidder.

66. (new): The method of claim 23 wherein a live auctioneer is able to instantaneously accept auction bids from on-site auction bidders and from remote auction bidders.

67. (new): The method of claim 23 wherein the remote auction bidders are able to instantaneously follow an accepted bid sequence established by the live auctioneer.

68. (new): The method of claim 23 wherein the remote auction bidders are able to instantaneously follow a requested bid sequence established by the live auctioneer.

Respectfully submitted,

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